

his family or to the sport, and there will never be another quite like him. His years of selfless volunteering have earned him a long and plentiful retirement.

Mr. Speaker I invite my colleagues to join me in saluting a remarkable man on the conclusion of his great career, and in wishing Vince, his wife, and their family many years of good health and happiness in the years ahead.

TRIBUTE TO THE RETIRED SENIOR  
VOLUNTEER PROGRAM OF HOUSTON  
AND HENRY COUNTIES

**HON. TERRY EVERETT**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 22, 1998*

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, I wish to bring to the attention of the House a very special group from my congressional district celebrating a milestone of public service to the people of Southeast Alabama.

I am speaking about the Retired Senior Volunteer Program of Houston and Henry Counties in the Alabama Wiregrass region. This month this organization celebrates 25 years of community volunteerism and selfless public service.

Founded locally in 1973, the RSVP provides meaningful volunteer opportunities for people who are retired or semi-retired. During the past quarter century, the RSVP's volunteers have impacted Houston County, Alabama with 2 million hours of service. If you were to convert that to a monetary value, it would exceed \$10 million.

Federally funded by the Corporation of National Service and sponsored by the Zonta Club of the Dothan Area Incorporated, the RSVP is making a difference in the lives of many Alabamians. I am very proud to salute the RSVP of Houston and Henry Counties as they commemorate 25 years of helping others. I join all my colleagues in wishing them 25 more productive and beneficial years of community service.

EARTH DAY RECOGNITION

**HON. SAM GEJDENSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 22, 1998*

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, as a former member of 4-H while growing up in eastern Connecticut, I would like to take this opportunity to share with you the results of a recent national poll conducted by 4-H and Honda, which shows the American people are demanding more vigilance from the U.S. government and industry in safeguarding the environment.

According to the EarthView survey released this week, teenagers and baby boomers agree that government and industry are falling short of their environmental obligations and that time is running out to protect the Earth from permanent environmental damage.

Sixty-three percent of teens and 64% of boomers agree that government leaders are not concerned about the future impact of today's environmental problems.

Eighty-two percent of teens and 76% of boomers think government leaders should do more to control pollution from the oil and chemical industries, even if that increases the price of oil.

The American people have rejected the extreme policies of the anti-environmentalists in Congress. In fact, every poll conducted since the 1994 election, which includes questions about the environment, demonstrates the vast majority of the American people support the progress of the past twenty five years. Moreover, a majority of Americans continue to reject the false choice between the environment and economic growth. Public opinion aside, the Republican Party is committed to rolling back important protections which guarantee every American can enjoy a healthy environment. I have opposed these dangerous attacks on the House floor as well as a former member of the Resources Committee.

I remain committed to preserving the fundamental tenets of our most important environmental statutes. While we have made tremendous progress over the last generation, we must remain vigilant. The American people do not believe we have gone too far and that it's time to turn back the clock. We need to continue our efforts to improve water quality to ensure our children will be able to enjoy our precious natural resources like the Quinebaug and Shetucket rivers in eastern Connecticut and Long Island Sound. We must preserve endangered plants and animals for their aesthetic, economic and pharmacological benefits. National standards must be maintained to ensure every American, regardless of where they live, will receive certain basic protections and to guarantee taxpayers in our state do not see their investments rendered meaningless by actions of our neighbors. Finally, changes to major statutes must be fully debated before the American people and not brought about through backdoor tactics.

Finally, I would like to submit for the RECORD an op-ed piece by William Strauss and Neil Howe which appeared in USA Today regarding this survey. Be assured that I will continue to fight to preserve, and further, the gains of the past twenty-five years and I hope you will join me in the fight.

GRANDPA SURE WOULD LIKE THIS EARTH DAY  
(By William Strauss and Neil Howe)

The original Earth Day, April 22, 1970, took place when the fabled "generation gap" between young boomers and their middle-age parents was at its widest. Back then, eco-activists openly loathed the pro-construction mind-set of the dominant "can-do" G.I. generation.

The times, they are (again) a-changin'. A new generational wave is about to break over the environmental movement as the boomers' own "can-do" kids come of age, according to a new poll.

ENTER THE 'MILLENNIALS'

Today's teens are the front ranks of the Millennial Generation, 1980s babies who are now populating American middle and high schools. Whereas their boomer parents were better talkers than doers, these Millennial kids are doers first, the poll says.

Millennials are no more like Generation X than inner-driven Xers were like boomers. Through the 1980s and early '90s, Gen X teens commonly viewed Earth Day not as boomer-style "eco-awareness," but rather as an occasion to do something personal, local and manageable. They'd recycle, pick up litter or tidy up a park. All that was useful, but it

narrowed the crusading spirit of the original Earth-Day activism.

Earth View, a new poll conducted by the National 4-H Council and Honda, compares the environmental views of 1,000 American teen-agers ages 13-18 with those of 1,000 of their parents, now in their 40s and early 50s. The poll reveals that the "eco-awareness" of Earth Days gone by soon may be supplanted by "eco-action."

Consider this. Three out of five boomer parents believe their own generation cares more about the environment than their kids do. Talking isn't doing, though. Millennials agree that their parents' generation cares as much about the environment as they do, but they see their own generation as far more inclined to take concrete action.

Where boomer parents are somewhat more likely than their kids to have donated to eco-causes or to have boycotted polluters' products, more Millennials have actually cleaned up or measured pollution, the poll shows.

Today's teens are more willing than their parents—or than teens a decade ago—to dig into their pockets. Seven in 10 say they would support shelling out 50 cents more per gallon for gasoline to make the air cleaner. Nearly eight in 10 would pay 50 cents more per compact disc to fund plastic-recycling programs.

Where the Earth Days of the '70s reflected a distrust of technology—recall the burying of automobiles—the Earth Days of the next century are likely to celebrate it. Aging boomers and Millennials overwhelmingly agree that technology can play a major role in safeguarding the planet.

ACTIVISM REVIVED

More than their parents, today's teens feel an urgency about the environment. Yet the Earth View poll also shows them to be more optimistic that they can do something about it. Fully 86% believe that it's their generation—and only 9% believe that it's boomers—whose actions today will matter most in 20 or 25 years.

If current trends continue, eco-activism early in the next century could become a modern version of what it was in the 1930s. That's when uninformed workers from the Civilian Conservation Corps cut trails, planted trees, and built enormous flood-control and power-generation edifices.

And who were those civic doers whose attitudes remind us of today's teens? The same G.I. Generation that won World War II—and then came home to create suburbia and give birth to the boomers.

The boomers' own environmental visions may be achieved by their children, whose attitudes resemble the boomers' parents. Yet it's the G.I. generation's grand constructions that the original Earth Day activists so often condemned. How ironic.

Neil Howe and William Strauss are co-authors of *Generations*, 13th-Gen and *The Fourth Turning*.

A TRIBUTE TO ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY CHAPTER OF SIGMA DELTA PI

**HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 22, 1998*

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to epsilon Kappa. St. John's University's Chapter of sigma Delta Pi, the National Collegiate Hispanic Society which, for seventy-seven years has been promoting Hispanic culture and language in the United